

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 409

Supporting democracy, development, and stabilization in Haiti.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2006

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. DEWINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Supporting democracy, development, and stabilization in
Haiti.

Whereas Haiti has a per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of \$361, over 65 percent of the population lives under the poverty line, 50 percent of the population does not have access to clean water, and nearly 50 percent of the population is illiterate, according to the World Bank;

Whereas the Government of Haiti has fundamental requirements with respect to providing citizen security, protecting the rule of law, controlling drug trafficking, and fighting corruption;

Whereas, on March 2, 2004, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan stated, “We should put the people of Haiti at the center of everything we try to do, and try and help them build a better future. And as I have indi-

cated before, I hope this time the international community will go in for the long haul and not a quick turnaround. We need to work with them to stabilize the country, and sustain the effort. It may take years and I hope we will have the patience to do it.”;

Whereas the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was established by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1542 on April 30, 2004, and extended again until August 15, 2006, by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1658, “with the intention to renew for further periods”;

Whereas over 40 countries participate in MINUSTAH, including 12 countries from the Western Hemisphere;

Whereas the United Nations senior leadership in Haiti is comprised of representatives from Canada, Brazil, and Chile;

Whereas more than 3,500,000 Haitians registered to vote in Haiti according to the Organization of American States;

Whereas more than 2,000,000 Haitians voted in the national elections on February 7, 2006, according to the Haitian Provisional Electoral Council (CEP); and

Whereas more than \$1,000,000,000 was pledged at the International Donors Conference in July 2004 in support of Haiti’s Interim Cooperation Framework: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) urges reconciliation among the people of
3 Haiti, including a government led by President-elect
4 Rene Preval that respects the rights of all political
5 parties;

1 (2) supports the holding of the second round of
2 parliamentary elections as soon as possible while
3 stressing the importance of a free, fair, and open
4 process;

5 (3) thanks the countries that have contributed
6 personnel to MINUSTAH, particularly Brazil, whose
7 President, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, announced on
8 March 13, 2006, that peacekeepers from Brazil will
9 stay in Haiti for as long as the new government in
10 Haiti needs them;

11 (4) strongly encourages MINUSTAH to main-
12 tain the current elevated troop levels and to raise
13 significantly the numbers of UNPOL police forces;

14 (5) urges the international community to con-
15 tinue to support MINUSTAH, to fulfill the pledges
16 made at the July 2004 International Donors Con-
17 ference, and to plan for a new multi-year commit-
18 ment of support at a new donor's conference to be
19 held no later than July 2006;

20 (6) recommends the creation of an effective de-
21 mobilization, disarmament, and reintegration pro-
22 gram to encompass former military members and
23 gangs;

1 (7) recommends that the new government co-
2 operate fully with MINUSTAH in assuring police
3 and judiciary reform; and

4 (8) supports assistance from the United States
5 Government for the reconstruction of Haiti, includ-
6 ing programs supporting job creation, governance
7 and rule of law, protection of the environment, social
8 development, and reconstruction of basic infrastruc-
9 ture.

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